



# SENATOR CARLOS I. URESTI

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**Attention Editors, Publishers, and Broadcasters:**

### **Senator Carlos Uresti: Senate Bill 11 Headed to the Full Senate**

Austin, TX—Today the Senate Health and Human Services Committee passed Senate Bill 11 to the full Senate. Joint authored by committee Vice Chairman Senator Uresti along with Chairman Schwertner and Chairwomen Nelson, SB 11 will bring much needed reforms to Child Protective Services (CPS) policies, improve contract oversight, and expand health care services for children and youth in foster care.

“A major reform bill like SB 11 requires a lot of time, effort and collaboration to get right, and I commend my colleagues on the committee for their steadfastness over the past few months. Unfortunately, for children in CPS, time is a matter of life or death in some instances, so I am grateful the bill is headed to the Senate floor.

“I urge the full Senate to work in a bipartisan manner and send SB 11 to the House as quickly as possible.” said Senator Uresti

Senator Uresti has been a tireless advocate on CPS issues in both the Senate and previously as a House member.

“Many of SB 11’s reforms are common sense, but we are also trying some new approaches to helping our CPS children. As founder of the Blue Ribbon Task Force in San Antonio, the advocates I work alongside have stressed the importance of communities and child welfare providers working together to ensure that kids entering the state's care stay closer to the communities they know. SB 11 requires that.” said Senator Uresti

Senate Bill 11 will be eligible to come before the full Senate as early as Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. Child Protective Services reform was named as an emergency item by Governor Abbott, which allows the bill to be heard before the 60<sup>th</sup> legislative day, the date after which non-emergency items can be heard.

*Sen. Uresti represents Senate District 19, which covers more than 35,000 square miles and contains all or part of 17 counties, two international ports of entry, eleven state parks, 51 school districts, 2700 miles of highways, and more than 23,000 producing oil and gas wells in both the Eagle Ford Shale and Permian Basin. The district is larger than 12 states and 82 Nations, and contains over one third of the Texas-Mexico border. Sen. Uresti is proud to serve on the Finance, Health & Human Services, Education, and Veteran Affairs & Border Security Committees.*